

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image recognition system comprising:

means for capturing a three dimensional image;

means for parsing said three dimensional image into a plurality of two-dimensional images; and

means for comparing at least two of said two-dimensional images to a database of a plurality of two-dimensional images.

2. An image recognition system according to claim 1 further comprising:

means for displaying a result of said comparison.

3. An image recognition system according to claim 1, wherein said means for comparing comprises:

means for digitizing a two-dimensional image.

4. An image recognition system according to claim 3 wherein said means for comparing further comprises:

means for storing a digitized two-dimensional image.

5. An image recognition system according to claim 4, wherein said means for comparing further comprises:

means for searching a database of two-dimensional images.

6. An image recognition system according to claim 1, wherein said means for capturing a three dimensional image comprises at least one of a visual optical digital camera, a digital video camcorder, an infrared camera, and a webcam.

7. An image recognition system according to claim 1, wherein said means for capturing a three dimensional image comprises:

a fingerprint scanner.

8. An image recognition system according to claim 1, wherein said means for comparing comprises:

a server.

9. An image recognition system comprising:

an image peripheral;

a processor system connected to said image peripheral, wherein said processor system constructs and captures a three dimensional image from signals received from said image peripheral, parses said three dimensional image into a plurality of two-dimensional images, and compares at least two of said plurality of two-dimensional images to a database of two-dimensional images.

10. An image recognition system according to claim 9 wherein said processor system comprises a server.

11. An image recognition system according to claim 9 wherein said processor system comprises:

a first processor for constructing and capturing a three dimensional image from signals received from said image peripheral and for parsing said three dimensional image into a plurality of two-dimensional images; and

a second processor for comparing at least two of said plurality of two-dimensional images to a database of two-dimensional images.

12. An image recognition system according to claim 11 wherein said first processor and said second processor are connected to each other through a network.

13. An image recognition system according to claim 12 wherein said network comprises a high-speed network.

14. An image recognition system according to claim 9 wherein said image peripheral and said processor system are connected to each other through a network.

15. An image recognition system according to claim 11 wherein said second processor comprises a server.

16. An image recognition system according to claim 9, wherein said image peripheral comprises at least one of a visual optical digital camera, a digital video camcorder, an infrared camera, and a webcam.

17. An image recognition system comprising:

an image capture station for capturing three dimensional images, said image capture station comprising an image peripheral, a first processor, and a first memory, wherein said image capture station stores a three dimensional image captured by said image peripheral in said first memory and said processor parses said three dimensional image into a plurality of two dimensional images; and

an image identification station, connected to said image capture station, comprising a second processor and a second memory, wherein said image identification station receives said plurality of two-dimensional images from said image capture station

and compares said plurality of two dimensional images to a database of two dimensional images.

18. An image recognition system according to claim 17 further comprising an intranet; wherein said image capture station and said image identification station are connected to each other through said intranet.

19. An image recognition system according to claim 18 wherein said intranet comprises a wireless network.

20. A method of identifying images comprising the steps of:
capturing a three-dimensional image;
parsing said three-dimensional image into a first plurality of two-dimensional images; and
comparing at least two of said first plurality of two-dimensional images to a second plurality of two-dimensional images.

21. A method of identifying images according to claim 20 further comprising the step of:

displaying a result of said comparison.
22. A method of identifying images according to claim 21 further comprising the step of storing said captured three-dimensional image in a database.

23. An image recognition system comprising:
an intranet;
a database server connected to said intranet;

a 3D image capture station connected to said intranet, said 3D image capture station comprising a CPU and an image peripheral; and

a 2D image identification station connected to said intranet, said 2D image identification station comprising a CPU;

wherein said 3D image capture station captures a three dimensional image, parses said three dimensional image into a plurality of two dimensional images, and transfers at least two two-dimensional images parsed from said three-dimensional image to said 2D image identification station.

24. An image recognition system according to claim 23, wherein said 3D image capture station further comprises a video server connecting said image peripheral to said CPU.

25. An image recognition system according to claim 23, wherein said 2D image identification station compares said at least two two-dimensional images received from said 3D capture station to a plurality of known two-dimensional images.

26. An image recognition system according to claim 24 wherein said video server is connected to said CPU through a wireless connection.

27. An image recognition system according to claim 24 wherein a plurality of image peripherals are connected to said CPU through said video server.